


Remarks/Arguments

This application is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/195,245 filed July 15, 2002. During the prosecution of the parent application, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement and, in response thereto, the Applicant elected Claims 17-21 for prosecution while Claims 1-16 were withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected invention. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Applicant hereby re-presents Claims 1-16 for consideration by the Examiner. Further by this Preliminary Amendment, the Applicant hereby cancels Claims 17-21 as having been prosecuted to completion.

For all the above reasons, the Applicant respectfully requests the consideration of Claims 1-16 on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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